

Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005000570002-6

INTELLOFAX 12

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Korea/USSR

DATE DISTR.

15 JUN 50

SUBJECT Exports from North Korea to the USSR

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Hemp from North Pyongan, North Hamgyong, Chakang, and South Pyongan Provinces is exported in large quantities to the USSR. Each province has a production quota which is allocated to the individual counties by the provincial people's committees. Hemp is collected and shipped to Chongjin (129-49, 41-46) via the Pyongyang-Wonsan railroad and thence transshipped to the USSR. During the period 1 January to 20 February, 150 carloads of hemp arrived at Chongjin.
2. During January 1950, a large quantity of gunpowder and dynamite was exported from the Pongong (127-54, 39-52) Chemical Plant to the USSR. Four Soviet vessels of 5,000 tons each took on cargoes at the plant docks. Two of these ships carried gunpowder and two carried dynamite.
3. At the request of the Soviet government, the North Korean Department of Interior has included pine resin in its list of exports to the USSR. Large quantities are to be exported over a long period. The resin is to be obtained from the following places: Yangdok (126-54, 39-10), Tokchon (126-18, 39-46), and Yongwon (126-32, 39-50) Counties in South Pyongan Province; Huichon (126-16, 39-50), Kanggye (126-36, 40-58), and Chon Ch'on (前 川) Counties in Chakang Province; and Koksan (126-40, 38-46) and Singye (126-32, 38-30) Counties in Hwanghae Province.

4. Two Soviet ships of 3,000 to 4,000 tons each visited Wonsan (127-26, 39-10) in November 1949. For three days Soviet personnel from the ships purchased rice on the Wonsan market, using large quantities of North Korean won,** and bought almost the entire local supply. Other personnel purchased cement from the Ch'on Nae-ri (前 乃 里) Cement Factory which is approximately thirty kilometers from Wonsan. On 15 November the two vessels, one with a full cargo of rice, the other with a full cargo of cement, departed for an undesignated Soviet port.

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* [REDACTED] The Pongong plant docks could originally accommodate vessels of 10,000 tons, but poor maintenance and deterioration of facilities have reduced the capacity to 5,000 tons.

** [REDACTED] The Soviets had such a quantity of won that local citizens believed that the money must have been printed specially in the USSR.

25X1X CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

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Auth.	HR 702
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